

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (previously amended):

A miter saw comprising:

a support structure having a cutting zone;

a swing arm above and pivotally attached to the support structure;

a rotatable blade supported by the swing arm so that the blade may move into the cutting zone;

a handle associated with the swing arm and adapted so that a user may pivot the swing arm and blade into the cutting zone;

a motor adapted to drive the blade;

a detection system adapted to detect contact between the blade and a person; and

a brake mechanism adapted to stop rotation of the blade upon detection by the detection system of contact between the blade and the person.

Claims 10-29 (canceled).

Claim 30 (new)

A miter saw comprising:

a support structure having a cutting zone;

a swing arm above and pivotally attached to the support structure;

a rotatable blade supported by the swing arm so that the blade may move into the cutting zone;

a handle associated with the swing arm and adapted so that a user may pivot the swing arm and blade into the cutting zone;

a motor adapted to drive the blade;

a detection system adapted to detect contact between the blade and a person; and

brake means for stopping rotation of the blade upon detection by the detection system of contact between the blade and the person.